

***Louisiana will Receive Over \$1.3 Million to Help Low Income Seniors and Working Families with Energy Costs***

January 17, 2008

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**"Record-high energy prices this winter have left many low- and fixed-income Louisianians struggling to afford their heating bills," said Rep. Melancon. "This \$1.3 million in federal assistance will help many of Louisiana's neediest continue to heat their homes, and I applaud the President for his cooperation."**

**"Nonetheless, this assistance is just a short-term solution to the serious ongoing challenges of high energy prices and a slowing economy. I will continue to work with my colleagues in Congress to address these issues and find long-term answers for Louisianians."**

This winter, Americans using heating oil will pay more than \$2,000 per family - over three times the 2001 costs. The 110th Congress included \$2.6 billion in LIHEAP funding in omnibus recently enacted - a \$400 million increase over last year.

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